

We have assumed enormous new responsibilities particularly dealing with the Wall Street issues of securities and exchanges, as well as insurance added on to the traditional banking issues, as well as the IMF, World Bank, and others; but we have a wide range of issues, and we needed that kind of extra staff to carry out our functions.

Mr. Speaker, to show my colleagues how fair this whole process worked out to be, particularly with the two-thirds, one-third, we will receive in our committee nine new staffing slots, five of which will go to the minority. Clearly, the gentleman's efforts have borne fruit in moving this bipartisan effort and making certain that the committees were funded properly and have the opportunity to do and carry out the agendas that we have before us.

I have nothing but praise for the process and particularly for the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY), the chairman, and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), my good friend, for what they have been able to accomplish and bring to the floor today.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I will make the representation, as I said before, that all 19 ranking members are going to support this resolution. They will do so because we have come together, sat down at the table, reasoned together and come up with what we believe to be a fair resolution.

Like the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. OXLEY) said, it is not perfect from anybody's standpoint, but perfect was not possible. But fair was possible, and it was achieved. It was achieved because I think the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HASTERT), Speaker of the House of Representatives, believed it appropriate; the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY), our chairman, fought hard to achieve that result.

It was not always easy. There were obviously some who felt that they did not like the shift that was being made, but because of the commitment to fairness of the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HASTERT) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY), fairness was achieved. I appreciate that.

There have been times, obviously, when on our side of the aisle, some thought that fairness was not achieved. We still are concerned about the ratios on committees. We are concerned from time to time with the processes that the Committee on Rules adopts, which precludes us from, we think, putting forward our propositions in a fair way.

It is good for the public to know, Mr. Speaker, that there are more times than not when we can sit down and come to agreement, knowing full well that all of us serve the American people, and they expect us to work together in as positive and productive a fashion as we can.

The leadership of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) and the leadership of the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HASTERT) have provided the oppor-

tunity for that to occur, and our ranking members have worked hard with their chairmen to accomplish that objective.

Mr. Speaker, I think we have done it, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I found in the years that I have served in office that the American people have a willingness to become involved in the energetic give-and-take of public debate, and that public debate on behalf of the people of the country is made in the committees. The committees are the heart of what this institution is about.

This is a proposal, a resolution we can proud of. It is fiscally responsible. It is, I believe, a good day for not only the House, but for the American people, because the institution of the House works.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this resolution.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Omnibus Committee Funding Resolution. While the resolution does not include the full request of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, which the Minority supported, it does recognize the increased workload facing our Committee. Each of the six subcommittees has more than a full plate, with issues such as patient protections, prescription drugs for seniors, and national energy policies, even before consideration of Administration proposals that will presumably be forthcoming.

I note that the proposed budget is a significant improvement in its treatment of the minority. Although my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have previously spoken of a goal of a two-thirds/one-third split between the Majority and Minority in funding and staff positions, the Minority on the Committee on Energy and Commerce has never received even that modest allocation. Under this resolution, however, the minority members, who constitute 49 percent of the House and 45 percent of the Energy and Commerce Committee, will finally be allocated one-third of the funding and staff slots long promised by the majority party. More importantly, it is my understanding that an accommodation of the needs of the Minority has also been reached on the other Committees as well.

Because of these improvements, I support this resolution and urge my colleagues to support it. I would note that this resolution is just a first step in the process; the House will need to allocate sufficient funds to make good on its promises. This resolution represents a good beginning, and I hope it carries over into more mundane matters, like office space, as well as into legislation on important policy questions.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the previous question is ordered on the resolution, as amended.

The question is on the resolution, as amended.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include therein extraneous material on H. Res. 84, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 5 p.m.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 38 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 5 p.m.

□ 1715

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GIBBONS) at 5 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.

#### CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2002

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, March 22, 2001 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for a period of debate on the subject of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2002.

The Chair designates the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, and requests the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HOBSON) to assume the chair temporarily.

□ 1721

#### IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for a period of debate on the subject of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2002, with Mr. HOBSON (Chairman pro tempore) in the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, March 22, 2001, general debate shall not exceed 3 hours, with 2 hours confined to the congressional budget, equally divided and controlled by the ranking member of the Committee on the Budget and 1 hour on the subject of economic goals and policies, equally divided and controlled by the gentleman